top and left side of the current block.

27. The apparatus of claim 21, wherein said copy means borders with the rightmost and lowermost pixel value of its left and top block if a block exists on the top and left side of the current block, and borders with the exterior of the object if the block does not exist on the top and left side of the current block.

The apparatus of Claim 25, wherein said bordering means copies its own leftmost column and uppermost row on the top and left side of the block to thereby perform a bordering, for the blocks situation on the object.

REMARKS

The Official Action has been carefully considered and the Examiner's comments are duly noted. Reconsideration of this Application in light of the amendments for the Specification and Claims is respectfully solicited.

With respect to the Drawings, the Examiner's comments are noted, and the Drawings will be corrected upon allowance.

It is noted that Claims 1 to 14 have been allowed. Claims 15, 16, and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fandrianto, et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,594,813. For the sake of the record, it should be noted that Claims 15 to 18 and Claim 23 have been cancelled without prejudice. Further, it should be noted that new Claim 24 is a combination of former Claims 15, 17, and 18. Therefore, the new Claim 24 includes the subject matter of Claims 17 and 18, which were objected to by the Examiner.

In addition, Claims 19, 20, 21, and 22 were amended so as to make the Claims dependent on new Claim 24.

In addition, a new Claim 25 has been added, which is a combination of the subject matter of former Claims 15 and 18. This new Claim 25 is considered to be allowable because

the Examiner indicated that the subject matter of Claim 18 was allowable.

New Claims 26 and 27 have been added. Claim 26 is based upon the subject matter of Claim 20, and new Claim 27 is based upon the subject matter of Claim 21.

With respect to the prior art made of record, this prior art has been considered, and the subject matter of the present Application is now claimed to as considered to be patentable over such references also.

A separate request for a two-month term extension is being submitted, but if for any reason is becomes detached, please use this statement as permission to charge our deposit order account 13-0025 if necessary so that the Application will be considered to be timely filed.

If there are any points outstanding, the Examiner is respectfully asked to call Applicant's Attorney in order to do what is necessary to place the Application into condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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July 28, 2000 JHN:rm 261 Madison Avenue New York, NY 10016 Enclosures:

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